

Public Service Commission State of North Dakota

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7 November 2016

The Honorable Wayne Stenehjem North Dakota Attorney General State Capitol 600 East Boulevard Avenue Bismarck, ND 58505-0040

RE: Practice and Procedure Rulemaking

Case No. AD-14-762

Dear Attorney General Stenehjem:

Thank you for your consideration of our request regarding the attached proposed rules. We appreciate your input.

Following discussion between the Public Service Commission's General Counsel and the Assistant Attorney General assigned to review the rules, the Commission has decided to withdraw the rules from further consideration by the Office of the Attorney General.

A copy of a Commission motion to this effect, passed 2 November 2016, is attached. If you have any questions or need any more information, please contact me.

Best regards,

Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco

General Counsel

enclosures



MOTION

November 2, 2016

Public Service Commission Practice and Procedure Rulemaking Case No. AD-14-762

Having discussed this matter with the Assistant Attorney General assigned to review the proposed rules, I move the Commission withdraw its August 17, 2016 submission to the Attorney General requesting an opinion as to legality.

State of North Dakota Public Service Commission

Public Service Commission
Practice and Procedure
Rulemaking

Case No. AD-14-762

69-02-04-01. Notice. In those proceedings in which a hearing is to be held, the commission will assign a time and place for hearing. Notice of the hearing must be posted in the office of the commission, and must be served on the parties and other persons entitled to receive notice at least twenty days prior to the date set for the hearing except in cases of emergency or as otherwise provided by law.

In any proceeding, except rulemaking proceedings, involving the rights of persons who are members of the public generally, notice of hearing must be given by legal publication in the North Dakota daily newspaper of the affected area. Notice must be published at least twenty days prior to the date of the hearing.

An electric, gas, or telecommunications public utility shall provide individual customer notice as required below by billing insert, newsletter, or other appropriate method approved by the commission. The notice must indicate the place and date of the commencement of any hearing, informal hearing, or public input session that has been ordered by the commission, and that the public is invited to attend. Subject to the power of the commission to modify its contents and when applicable, the notice must include a summary sheet describing the absolute dollar and percentage impact of any proposed rate or price changes by

the various classes of services offered by the utility and must include a list of the utility's business office locations where the proposed rate or price schedules and a comparison of present and proposed rates or prices can be examined by the public. The notice must also contain in bold type the following statement when applicable: The rate changes described in this notice have been requested by (specific utility).

For electric and gas utilities, individual customer notice is required for an application for approval of a rate increase, purchase or sale, merger, or acquisition filed by the utility, and applications by the utility for alternative regulation. For electric and gas utilities, the commission may require the utility to provide individual customer notice to potentially affected customers in other rate proceedings, complaint cases, advance determination of prudence cases, and fuel and purchased gas adjustment proceedings.

For telecommunications utilities, individual customer notice is required for an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity resulting from the sale, merger, or acquisition of an incumbent telecommunications company. The commission may require a telecommunications utility to provide individual customer notice to potentially affected customers in complaint cases.

The individual customer notices required by this section are separate from and in addition to any other customer notices required by law or rule, unless the commission authorizes the utility to satisfy multiple notice requirements with one notice.

History: Amended effective October 1, 1980; September 1, 1982; September

1,1992; January 1, 2001<u>:</u>

General Authority: NDCC 28-32-02

Law implemented: NDCC 28-32-05, 28-32-08, 49-01-07

69-02-04-02. Appearances. Each interested party shall enter an appearance at the beginning of the hearing by giving the party's name and address and briefly stating the capacity in which the party appears. All appearances must be noted on the record. The name and position of each member of the commission's staff participating in the hearing or investigation must be included in the record as an appearance.

History: Amended effective September 1, 1992;

General Authority: NDCC 28-32-02 Law Implemented: NDCC 49-01-07